Western Retailer Burns
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RT. HON. R.B. BENNETT OPENS $250,000.00 EXTENSION TO BURNS & CO. LTD'S. PLANT.

The name Burns & Co. Ltd. is a household word in the West and that Company has had much to do in the development of the livestock industry of the Prairie Provinces. Their latest extension is in the nature of a new abattoir and the Calgary plant will now, when working to full capacity, be capable ofhandling 20,000 hogs per week; 2,500 cattle; 11,000 calves, and 14,000 sheep, the killing operations being under the direct control of Federal Government inspectors.

It was fitting that the Right Honorable R.B. Bennett, former prime minister, himself a Calgary citizen, and a close friend of the founder of the business, the late Senator Patrick Burns, should have officiated at the opening of this large extension to the Burns & Co. Ltd. Calgary plant. Many thousands of citizens of Alberta and from adjoining provinces took advantage of the ceremony to inspect this huge plant and follow the various processes which transform livestock on the hoof into the various finished products associated with the name of Burns & Co. Ltd. The new abattoir is as modern as company officials, architect, and contractor could make it, and there is nothing finer of its type on the continent.

Altogether the Burns & Co. Ltd. operate six large meat packing plants in Western Canada with wholesale houses at many Western points and wholesale offices not only in

Montreal and Toronto, but in London and Liverpool, England.

This great enterprise now under the presidency of Mr. John Burns, who is chairman of the board of directors was in reality founded by the late Senator Patrick Burns as far back as 1885, for it was in that year that he began the business venutre which broadened into Burns & Co. Ltd. with its allied companies. Prior to that he had supplied meat to railway construction camps who were then pushing the rails Westward.

In 1892 Burns slaughterhouse was located on the side of the C.N.R. round house in east Calgary and was destroyed by fire. Mr. Burns immediately purchased the property of the Canada Land and Branch Company also in east Calgary on which the present large packing plant of Burns & Co. Ltd. now stands. Up to this time only beef and mutton were dressed in Calgary, but in 1898 Alberta farmers were raising more hogs than were needed to meet their own requirements and a pork packing establishment became a paying venutre. In 1906 this particular activity was greatly enlarged. All kinds of cured meats were produced for which the well-known Shamrock brand was adopted.

From this point progress was rapid. A large modern packing plant was built in Vancouver in 1907 and in 1909 the business which had been incorporated under a Dominion charter assumed the title by which it was known for many years, P.Burns & Co. Ltd. With the opening of the Peace River district another large plant was built at Edmonton. In 1913 the Calgary plant was almost completely wiped out

by fire. New and permanent buildings were rapidly erected. In spite of this setback business went on. In 1918 another plant was erected in Prince Albert, and in the same year the property and business of a packing plant in Regina was purchased by P. Burns & Co. Ltd. The Burns' service was now being extended to the public in Alberta, British Columbia and Saskatchewan.

In 1926 the company took over and rebuilt a plant in Winnipeg which has since been considerably enlarged from time to time; the Winnipeg branch servicing northern Ontario as well as Manitoba. The company has wholesale distributing plants at all strategic points throughout the West, the most important being at Saskatoon and Moose Jaw in Saskatchewan; Prince Rupert, Nelson and Victoria in British Columbia; Lethbridge in Alberta; WhiteHorse in the Yukon territory; and Fort William in Ontario.

Without doubt the business created by the late Senator Patrick Burns had a great influence in the development of Western Canada by encouraging the production of livestock and creating a market for it, and no finer compliment could have been paid to his memory than the statement of his nephew John Burns, now president and chairman of the board of directors. Speaking of the early days of the company in 1890 and of Mr. Patrick Burns' energy and enterprise in developing it during the next 40 odd years, he said: "His were the conquests of the builder rather than the fortune hunter; the progressive optimist rather than the transgressing rival."

It would take a complete issue of The Western Retailer to describe the different branches within the Burns & Co. Ltd. plant which, in Calgary alone, covers 22 acres. This must be left to the imagination of our readers. Enough to say that this company produces fresh, cured and canned meats in enormous quantities, which are marketed throughout Canada and in the principal countries of the world. Their business is international.

The office staff of the company today totals 97, while there are approximately 400 employees on the payroll.

Congratulations to Burns & Co. Ltd. and Mr. John Burns, president and chairman of the board of directors, and good wishes for the future development, extension and success of that company.